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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

MAR 15 1961

Gen. L. L. Lemnitzer, USA, Chairman  
Joint Chiefs of Staff  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Gen:

I am in receipt of a note from General Sir William Morgan with which he enclosed a copy of his letter to you introducing to you the well-known Hungarian General, Lajos Dalnoki-Veress.

While you are no doubt familiar with General Veress and his background, I thought you might be interested in the attached information concerning him which was brought to my attention by our people here.

Sincerely,

Allan W. Dulles  
Director

Enclosure

Memo, 1 pg, 2 cys

Approved for Release  
Date Dec 1999

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MEMORANDUM:

SUBJECT: General Lajos DAINOKI-VERESS

1. General VERESS (pronounced VERESH) is an honorable, politically conservative, anti-Communist, career Army officer, who was the ranking Hungarian on the Eastern front under Regent Miklos HORTHY during World War II. He surrendered to the Soviets in 1944 on orders from HORTHY. The general was imprisoned by the Hungarian Communists in 1946 and remained in prison until 1956, when he was released by Hungarian revolutionaries. He escaped to Western Europe in 1956.

2. General VERESS was highly respected by the emigration because of his long imprisonment, and because he did not sell out to the post-war Hungarian Communist regime. In recognition of his respected position, he was named co-chairman of a Hungarian freedom fighters' organization. The current chairman of the organization, which is now called the "Federation of Hungarian Freedom Fighters, Inc.", is Maj. Gen. Bela KIRALY, who resides in New York. Because of his imprisonment, General VERESS had little knowledge of the political, economic, and social questions surrounding the post-war Hungarian emigration;

3. Although General VERESS himself appears to be above reproach, the fact that he is under the influence of a notoriously pro-Fascist group makes it desirable to deal with him with a good deal of caution. It is extremely doubtful that the intelligence potential of General VERESS' Freedom Fighter Organization would outweigh the possible damage which might result from continued contact with him while he is closely associated with ZAKO.